

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 09921 190507Z
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EUR-12 /074 W
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P R 180704Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6320
INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 9921

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PROP, CH, TW, US
SUBJECT: LOCAL PRO-PRC PRESS ON SINO-US RELATIONS AND VANCE VISIT

1. SUMMARY: A LOCAL PRC-SUPPORTED PAPER HAS BRIEFLY
TAKEN NOTE OF CHINA POLICY PROPOSALS BY SENATOR KENNEDY
AND REPRESENTATIVE WOLFF AS DEMONSTRATING THAT THERE ARE
PRO-NORMALIZATION VOICES IN CONGRESS. WHILE INFERRING
FROM THESE SOME POSITIVE CONGRESSIONAL MOVEMENT, IT TIES
THE POSSIBILITY OF SPEEDY NORMALIZATION TO THE CARTER
ADMINISTRATION'S ABROGATION OF THE US-TAIWAON MUTUAL
SECURITY TREATY. THE SAME PAPER ON THE FOLLOWING DAY,
PICKING UP ON THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S CHARACTERIZATION
OF THE VANCE TRIP AS EXPLORATORY IN NATURE, STATED THAT
NO "MOMENTOUS ANNOUNCEMENT" COULD BE EXPECTED, ALTHOUGH
REAL PROGRESS COULD CERTAINLY BE MADE IF THE US IS INDEED
"MARCHING FORWARD" BOTH COMMENTARIES AVOID CRITICIZING
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THE IDEA OF SUBSTITUTING A RESOLUTION FOR THE TREATY.
END SUMMARY.

2. AN AUGUST 16 NEW EVENING POST COMMENTARY SUMMARIZES
SENATOR KENNEDY'S PROPOSALS SIMPLY AS ADVOCATING
NORMALIZATION OF SINO-US RELATIONS BY "EARLY NEXT
YEAR" ON THE BASIS OF THE THREE CONDITIONS PUT FORTH

BY THE PRC. NOTING HIS PLAN TO PLACE THESE PROPOSALS BEFORE CONGRESS, THE COMMENTARY POINTS OUT THAT THIS WOULD BE A FIRST. IT NEXT DESCRIBES REP. WOLFF'S PROPOSALS AS CALLING FOR A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONCERN FOR THE PEACEFUL LIFE OF THE TAIWAN PEOPLE, TO REPLACE THE "US-CHIANG" TREATY.

3. THE COMMENTARY CONTINUES THAT, ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS THAT ONLY PRO-TAIWAN VOICES EXIST IN CONGRESS, IN FACT THIS IS NOT SO, AS BOTH WOLFF AND THE MORE INFLUENTIAL KENNEDY DEMONSTRATE. THE PIECE GOES ON TO NOTE, AS ALWAYS, THAT THE MAIN STUBBLING BLOCK IS THE TREATY. IT SUGGESTS THAT THE RECENT TENDENCY IN WASHINGTON "SEEMS" TO BE TOWARD REPLACING THE TREATY WITH A "DECLARATION."

4. ON AUGUST 17 A NEW EVENING POST COMMENTARY, CITING THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S CHARACTERIZATION OF THE VANCE VISIT AS EXPLORATORY, STATES THAT NO "MOMENTOUS ANNOUNCEMENT" CAN BE EXPECTED. IT GOES ON TO SAY THAT THIS DOES NOT MEAN NO PROGRESS WILL BE MADE. IT REITERATES AND EMPHASIZES THE NECESSITY OF ABROGATING THE TAIWAN TREATY, NOTING THAT, ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT CARTER HAS CHARACTERIZED THE TREATY AS A "DIFFICULT PROBLEM" THE WOLFF AND KENNEDY PROPOSALS DEMONSTRATE BOTH THAT THERE IS A WAY TO DO THIS AND THAT

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THE ADMINISTRATION HAS SUPPORT IN CONGRESS. THE COMMENTARY IN CONCLUSION REITERATES THAT PROGRESS CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THE VANCE VISIT, IF THE US IS INDEED READY TO "MARCH FORWARD."

5. COMMENT: THE EARLIER COMMENTARY IS THE MORE UPBEAT IN ITS ANALYSIS OF TRENDS, EVEN SUGGESTING THAT THE US IS RESPONDING TO A FLOW OF EVENTS THAT CANNOT BE TURNED BACK. THE SECOND PIECE, WHILE UTILIZING SOME OF THE SAME INFORMATION, TEMPERS THIS OPTIMISM, EMPHASIZING THAT PROGRESS DEPENDS ON THE US. IT IS OF INTEREST THAT THESE COMMENTARIES AVOID SUGGESTING THAT REPLACEMENT OF THE TREATY WITH A "RESOLUTION" WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE.

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PGOV, PROP, OVIP, SOPN, CH, TW, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
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